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# The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 374. DECEMBER, 1937.

PATRIOTISM. HONOUR. SERVICE.

"Fellow-citizens of the household of God."—EPH. II. 19.

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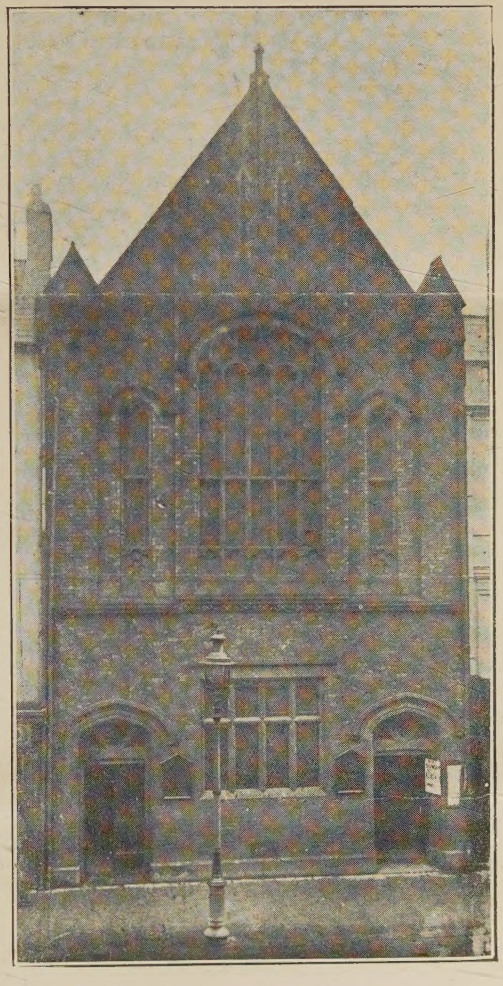

YORK STREET N.S. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BELFAST.

## NOTES AND NEWS.

Dr. James Martineau in "The Way Out of the Trinitarian Controversy," stated that the doctrine of the Trinity was the least objectionable part of the orthodox system, and if that were the only obstacle it could easily be surmounted, and suggested the interpretation which appears in the heading of "The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian" of October, 1937. Dean Stanley of Westminster Abbey declared himself to be as much an Unitarian as Dr. Martineau. It may possibly have escaped Dr. Martineau's observation at the time, but that interpretation is the equivalent of Creator, Preserver, Regenerator of the Hindu Trimurti, behind which is the Undivided Unity—the Ishvara, the Unmanifested; turned inward on itself as Life it is Unity; turned outward in manifestation as Consciousness it is: subject, predicate, object;—it is a triplicity.

* * *

We wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We thank, most sincerely, our helpers in every congregation, those who send items for publication, who see to the sale of the magazine and promote its interests, to our advertisers who so loyally support the magazine from year to year, to the printer for his excellent craftsmanship, and to our Treasurer for the close attention and care he gives to its finances. We are especially grateful for the many letters of encouragement and appreciation from time to time. Quite unexpectedly, from one who is a great sufferer, came a message of gratitude for the October magazine.

* * *

It is with feelings of profound reverence and regret that we record the passing of a great statesman, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald. He had preached at least on one occasion in one of the Unitarian and Free Christian pulpits; and as a protest against the exclusion of Unitarians, he withdrew from Toc H.

* * *

One of the most enthusiastic and devoted workers in the youth movement in connection with the congregations under the General Assembly in Great Britain is the Rev. A. W. Vallance, minister of Pendleton, Manchester, editor of "The Unitarian and Free Christian Monthly," whose visit to Belfast some years ago may still be remembered. The occasion was the U.U.C.A. annual meeting in the Central Hall. A man of fine personality, he left behind him delightful memories.

The Rev. R. Nicol Cross, M.A., Minister of First Presbyterian Church, Belfast, has been appointed Principal of Manchester College, Oxford. Mr. Cross will enter upon his new duties in October, 1938.

* * *

The 313th Ministers' Meeting was held in the Carlton Restaurant, the Rev. F. Munford being the host. Unfortunately on account of illness Mr. Munford was unable to be present. The Rev. Howard Payne of All Souls', Belfast, was appointed Secretary. The next meeting will be held at 68 Duncairn Gardens, on December 6th.

* * *

The Ex-Moderator (Rev. Dr. Agnew) took the place of the Moderator at the Cenotaph at the City Hall on Armistice Day. We are glad to observe that our Church is now given its proper place on all such occasions.

* * *

The Rev. Dr. Alfred Hall in an address on the Khasi Hills Mission, referred to the Rev. A. Margaret Barr, M.A., as one "who heard the call even before she was appointed by the General Assembly" A graduate of Cambridge, a student of Manchester College, Oxford, she has given up the amenities of Western civilization to devote the best years of her life to the development of the Khasi people. She is teaching little children and training teachers —and no work is more needed or more lofty than that of the medical or the educational missionary.

* * *

Subscriptions for last half-year now due and should be forwarded to the Manager, Rev. A. Davison, Dromore, who will also gratefully acknowledge contributions to the Subsidy Fund

* * *

Dr. Agnew is giving his Russian Lecture in the Town Hall, Lurgan, and will also be giving it once more in Dublin.

* * *

January, 1938, number published 24th December. Copy sent in before December 18th will be received by Rev. John Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down.

* * *

O Hidden Life of God, outside which nothing can exist; help us to see Thee in the face of our enemies, and to love Thee in them. So shall Thy peace spread over our world, and Thy Will shall at last be done on Earth as it is done in Heaven.

## REVIEWS.

**World Lyrics,** by H. HARROLD JOHNSON (Blackwell, Oxford, 2/6).

APPRECIATION BY REV. R. NICOL CROSS, M A.

Those who have read and enjoyed the previously published collections of the Rev. Harrold Johnson's (our minister of Buxton) lyrics will welcome this further volume, for they have learned to expect high poetic quality, fine craftsmanship, deep thought and deft use of the English language. His work will satisfy Matthew Arnold's description of poetry as the profound application of ideas to life, and Wordsworth's as "emotion recollected in tranquility"—the harvest of the quiet eye. We can recall his joy in woods and trees, in stream and storm in the "Nature Lyrics," his passionate sympathy with the toilers and high interpretation of work in the "Labour Lyrics," his delight in the English countryside, and his patriotism in the "English Lyrics" and "Empire Lyrics," his fervent religious feeling in the "Devotional Lyrics," his exaltation of human love, and home, and the objects associated with them in "Love Lyrics." All these he invested with the golden light of vision, and rich raiment of the music woven on the loom of his own soul. They were enhanced for us by seeing them with his eye, and hearing them through his ear. He brought to his interpretations a religious philosophy, inculcated the eternal values, which neither moth nor rust of time can corrupt, and conjured up again from the vasty deeps those hopes and trusts that "wake to perish never," and "bring all heaven before our eyes." "The One remains, the many change and pass." We heard that note of Shelley's again in the solemn vibrant tones of his verse.

In the present volume there is the same elevation of spirit, the same confidence of faith, the same recognition of, and response to, the heroic, as he confronts this world of ours, and also burning satire on some of its political figures and doings. A number of the themes are handled in the more difficult sonnet form, and Mr. Johnson manages to round them off with impressive last couplets.

The tributes to Homer, Plato, Virgil and The Buddha, not only reveal his classical culture but are carefully wrought, and have fine lines:

"Only the beauties of the soul abide"—
"The song of Homer lonely by the sea,
The mind of man upon its morning way."
"Beauty and truth in man and marble grew
Like morning dawns begotten of the sun."

And this on Virgil:

The solace of green fields, the fair repose
Of old-time homes of men; the murmuring
Of brooks and honey-bees; a shepherd-maid
Sporting with idle shepherd in the shade;
Woodland and cornland, lake and sky, which bring
The quiet soothing of the sum of woes.

That is the less known Virgil painting his happy pictures under spacious summer suns and amid the rural shades. Then there is the Buddha who

Sought the balm to make this maimed world whole;
And finding this, he knew that perfect peace,
Nirvana, when the wheels of struggle cease.

. . . . . .

Bound by that Cosmic Law all tongues confess
Whose way is Love, whose end is Blessedness.

There is the stirring "Ballad of the Titanic" that will appeal to Northern Ireland folk, and the heroic picture of the last days of "Captain Scott and his Men" on the fateful Antarctic snows. Included are sonnets in praise of Ramsay Macdonald and Mr. Baldwin, and poems on episodes of our post-war epoch and some of its figures, Hitler, Mussolini, Hindenburg, the latter evincing Mr. Johnson's strong moral feelings and judgments; but we would especially mention and thankfully welcome that on the late Sir William Watson:

You were not of our manners or our days,
Of Milton's and of Wordsworth's lineage sprung,
etc.

His music is at its best when struck from chords of admiration, and William Watson wrote poetry of lofty quality and abiding charm. Over the battlefields of modern time, where forms lie stricken that men once held sacrosanct, Mr. Johnson waves still the banner of deathless faith and blows the bugle of immortal hope, the immemorial voice of the soul dreaming of things to come.

The battle with the elements begins,
And man shall win, and all the seas be calm.

Then, from the dotted islands there shall come
The song of plumèd birds and perfumed gales
To voyagers outworn.

So, the prison bars are broken
And the untamed spirit soars
Toward the newer suns and the brighter hopes
Though the Heaven's thunder roars.

. . . . . .

And ye who would build you the City of Love
Ye shall see it with your eyes!
For the word of the Lord is Unity, and the Will of
the Lord shall be done.

God is one and all shall be one in Him, such is the living message of Mr. Johnson's prophetic poesy.

R. NICOL CROSS.

## OBITUARIES.

### The Passing of Mr. Adam Millin.

By the death of Mr. Millin, All Souls' Church losses one of its most devoted members, and leaves a gap that will not easily be filled. For more than forty years he served the congregation as Hon. Secretary, during which time his helpful advice was at our disposal. For his services to our congregation we gratefully acknowledge our indebtedness, and his deep interest in the welfare of the church will long be remembered. On Sunday morning, 17th October, the congregation stood for a few minutes in reverent silence paying tribute to the memory of a life-long member. Nothing that can be said would do adequate justice to all Mr. Millin meant to our church or what the church meant to him. He belonged to a family the tradition of which was faithful service to this our church, and he worthily followed in that tradition. Well could he say with Paul, "I have fought the good fight and have run the race and have finished my course."

### Mrs. M. McCullough.

The Mountpottinger Congregation regrets to record the passing of its Senior Member which took place somewhat unexpectedly on September 25th, at the residence of her son in Gibson Park Gardens.

For some time past the deceased lady had been, much to regret, prevented from joining in the Services owing to failing health. This did not prevent her from maintaining a keen interest in the affairs of the Congregation with which she had long connection.

She was blessed with a large family and her six sons and one daughter all have Membership with the Congregation, being for the most part loyal workers. For the past few years the eldest son, Mr. H. B. McCullough has held the position of Church Secretary and has carried out his duties in a most exemplary manner. Another son, Mr. Hugh McCullough, has had a seat on the Church Committee for an appreciable period, whilst the one daughter, Mrs, F. Gardner, is a loyal member of the Choir.

To the whole family our sincere sympathy in the loss of a good mother is extended.

### Mrs. Ruth Brown, Warrenpoint.

The Directors of the *Newry Telegraph*, Mr. T. J. Brown and Mr. James Brown, have ustained a great loss by the passing of their loving and beloved mother, Mrs. Ruth Brown, Springfield Terrace, Warrenpoint. A very full obituary notice appeared in *The Newry Telegraph*, of Tuesday, November 2nd, 1937, and in *The Witness*, the organ of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Mrs. Brown had exerted a considerable influence in Warrenpoint, a friend of the poor, and a great lover of little children. The Rev. J. McCleery, B.A., S.T.M., took a part in the service in the house, and the Rev. James Morrow, B.A., officiated at the graveside. In the very large cortege were mourners from every class and creed, including the heads of all the churches of the town, the Administrator of the Catholic parish, being also present, and reference to the bereavement thus sustained by a member of the Committee, was made by Mr. McCleery at the Armistice Anniversary Service at our Warrenpoint Meeting House.

### Miss Maude Forrest.

It is with very deep regret that we record the sudden passing home of Miss Maude Forrest on Monday, November 15th, at Antrim. The Forrest family were enthusiastic members of Mountpottinger congregation till about a year ago, when they came to Antrim to live, and have, since coming here manifested wholehearted enthusiasm in our congregational life. Miss Forrest was in her seat in church as usual on Sunday, on Monday morning God's finger touched her, and she was translated home without suffering. A service was held in the house and in the Old Presbyterian Meeting House on Wednesday, November 17, at 1 o'olock conducted by her present minister, Rev. George V. Crook and her former minister, Rev. F. Munford, B.A., Mountpottinger. She was laid to rest in our old Meettng House Green. To her bereaved and lonely family circle we tender our sincerest sympathy, realizing the truth of the words that Johathan said to David—"Thou shalt be missed because thy seat will be empty."

## TRINITY.

"This doctrine of a Trinity covers a truth, though it often conceals it. Its religious significance seems to be this ; God does not limit himself within the unity of his essence, but incarnates himself in man—hence the Son ; diffuses himself in space and in spirit ; works with men both to will and to do—hence the Holy Ghost." "Theordore Parker.

## REPORTS.

**Mountpottinger**—Harvest Services were held on October 19th, when Rev. J. Shaw Brown preached at both services to good congregations. The local branch of the Women's League had arranged tasteful decorations and thanks are accorded to all those whose gifts made this possible.

Mrs. John Allen contributed solos at both services and in the evening we were favoured by having the help of Miss Adelaide Beattie and the Victoria Male Octette.

The various items were much appreciated and we are grateful for the aid thus generously given. Mr. H. Shepherd presided at the organ.

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**All Souls', Belfast**—The Sale of Work takes place on Wednesday, December 1st. Mrs. Michael Corbet Andrews has generously consented to open the Sale, and Mrs. Gardiner, of Holywood, to take the chair. Following the precedent created last year the men are taking charge of the proceedings in the evening. All sorts of games and competitions are promised.

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**Antrim**—Harvest Thanksgiving was held on Sunday afternoon, October 31st. The Rev. F. Munford, B.A., of Mountpottinger had been announced as the preacher, but, was unable to be present, being prevented by a very severe attack of influenza. The Meeting House was filled to overflowing, and the minister, the Rev. G. V. Crook preached an eloquent sermon, from I. Thessalonians v. 18. "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus, concerning you." The decorations were very artistic. The organist was Mr. Albert Taylor, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., of First Church, Belfast, and solos were exquisitely rendered by Mrs. Taylor, A.R.C.M. The congregational singing was of a very high order, it went with brightness and heartiness. There were evidences of an improvement and advance in the congregation, largely helped by recent welcome accessions.

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**Ballycarry**—Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held on the 17th October. The morning Service which was largely attended was conducted by the minister, who also preached the sermon. At the evening Service the Rev. A. G. Peaston of Templepatrick, preached an able and eloquent sermon before an overflowing congregation. The Carnegie organ was in the capable hands of Mr. W. P. Campbell of Whitehead, to whom the Congregation is greatly indebted for his kindness in regular training of the choir. The musical portion of the service was augmented by the addition of the Misses Wilson of Troopers Lane, and also by the members of the Alexander Quartette of Belfast, who contributed some fine singing of popular sacred songs.

By the willing help of the members of the choir and the Women's League, the Church was decorated with the usual signs and symbols of the Harvest. Gifts of flowers, fruits, corn and vegetables were received not only from the congregation but from members of the neighbouring churches.

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**Belfast, York Street**—Since the Ulster Hall Service our members have set too with a will to make up for the leeway caused by Dr. Agnew's illness combined with the exceptionally fine summer which made for rather smaller congregations for a time than usual. September and October provided us with new records in attendance, seats appearing in the aisles every Sunday night. A new experiment was attempted in connection with the Harvest. Instead of the lavish decorations of former years every member was invited to make a special contribution to be placed in the Collection on Harvest Sunday. The result was over £30. The Dramatic Society also repeated their performance of "Killybuck" on four occasions making twelve performances of this play in all and it may be repeated again. The November Communion was well attended and on Armistice Night though there was no unusual feature in the Service the Church was packed. Members are also subscribing directly to the heating fund and we hope that as a result we shall be able to meet the renovation expenses of this year amounting to £140 without any money raising effort and without lowering the balance in hand with which we like to finish the year. Once more we have to deplore the lack of space in our Church and Hall. There are constant suggestions of holding the evening service and giving our plays in an outside Hall but while we might greatly increase our attendances in that way we feel it would have no permanent value in building up a congregation and attaching it to our Church. Meanwhile the numbers of young people and particularly of young people who are leaders in many of the different movements in Belfast, who attend our Services is a source of joy to us and amazement to our visitors. So also is the attendance of country friends many

coming from Lurgan and towns where we have no Church of our own. While we welcome them we should welcome even more gladly members of our own denomination who have no evening Services of their own. They will meet members of most of other Churches and help us in more ways than one. We may make new comers into loyal members of our Church but we cannot ourselves give them an interest in our Body as a whole unless they are brought into contact with its members. We see members of our country congregations attending different meetings in the City during the week and it would surely be no great effort to make a journey to Belfast on Sunday in the best of causes. Should any respond to this repeated invitation and find the Church closed as it sometimes has to be they should make their way to the back and members of our Church will gladly give them their seats and attend the relayed service in the Hall.

**Greyabbey**—A British Legion united service was held in the Concert Hall, conducted by the Rev. W. H. T. Tilson, M.A., on Sunday afternoon, November 14th.

**Crumlin**—On Armistice Day the usual service was held at the Memorial, the ministers taking part being the Rev. F. M. Bryers (Presbyterian) and the Rev. John Hinkins, M.A. (Non-Subscribing Presbyterian).

On Sunday, November 14th, the local branch of the British Legion held its annual parade. Members met at the Legion hut where they were joined by the "B" Specials. Headed by the Crumlin Accordion Band the combined company marched to the First Presbyterian Church where the service was conducted by the minister, the Rev. J. Hinkins. The preacher reminded his hearers of the ideals that were assumed to be in the heart of the Unknown Warrior and those like him : a land of social justice, a world safe for democracy, established peace. He said that justice would never be obtained by every section of the community clamouring for its rights but only by every one having a passionate desire to do the right, that the world could be made safe for democracy only by every man making himself worth while having the light of knowledge in his eyes, the flame of freedom in his soul, being the possessor of a spiritual purpose, that established peace could be reached only by the Christian way the definite and sincere offer of friendship.

**Ballee** - Goodly congregations assembled at the Harvest Thanksgiving Services, which were held on Sunday and Monday, Oct. 10th and 11th. The Church was beautifully decorated with symbols of the harvest season, and the ladies are to be warmly congratulated on the result of their labours. On the Sunday the special preacher was the Rev. F. Munford, and on Monday, the Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew, to both of whom the congregation is indebted for eloquent and inspiring discourses. The choir's excellent rendering of the anthem, "Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord," was greatly appreciated. Mr. R. McCullen officiated at the organ. The Harvest produce was given to the Down County Infirmary.

A well attended Remembrance Service was held on the evening of November 7th. There was a parade of ex-servicemen under the leadership of Captain Sloan, and a wreath, in memory of the Fallen, was laid by two of their number. Buglers of the 2nd Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment gave dignity to the service by sounding the "Last Post" and the "Réveillè." A most acceptable rendering of Elgar's, "Land of Hope and Glory," was given by the choir, the soloist being Mrs. Watts, of Ardglass. An impressive service closed with the National Anthem, and recession of ex-servicemen. The collection was in aid of Earl Haig's Fund for Disabled Soldiers.

On Armistic Day the minister took part in the Service of Remembrance at the Downpatrick War Memorial, and, on behalf of the Ballee congregation, placed a wreath on the War Memorial, "In Gratitude to God, and in memory of the Fallen."

A successful Whist Drive in aid of Church Funds were held in the Schoolroom on Nov. 12th. Cordial thanks are extended to the ladies who arranged the refreshments, and to Mr. Harold Cavan, who acted as M.C.

**Newry Armistice Service**—A very impressive service was held in the First Presbyterian Church on November 7th, when the preacher was the Rev. J. McCleery, B.A., S.T.M. Every seat was occupied except that reserved opposite the War memorial. No ministers of the other Protestant churches in the town attended. One of the absent clergymen wrote to Mr. McCleery, on behalf of his colleagues and himself, that owing to the beliefs of their churches being so divergent on one cardinal point of the Christian faith, they could not attend, and that the British Legion was informed that they (the clergymen mentioned) could not be present owing to the attitude of the Unitarian Church in general

to the Deity of Jesus Christ. This has given rise to a spirited correspondence in the *Newry Telegraph*, in the course of which the Constitution of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland, is printed in full. Lord and Lady Kilmorey, and the heads of the British Legion in Newry and prominent citizens of every Protestant creed were present. His Lordship and Major J. D. McCallum, D.S.O., R.M., were the first to go forward and shake Mr. McCleery's hand, and express their pleasure in being able to attend the service.

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**Mountpottinger Women's League**—A Social was held in the Schoolroom on Oct. 26th. This was in aid of the forthcoming Sale of Work which is to be held on December 10th, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and was open to members of the Congregation and friends. The attendance however was rather disappointing.

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**Moneyrea**—The Dramatic Society held their Annual Social in the Old School on Friday night, November 12th.

The function was confined to members of the Congregation and friends and there was a large gathering. The catering was in the capable hands of the ladies who gave the company an excellent tea. Mr. William Maxwell acted as M.C. The Social was a great success and one of the most enjoyable we have had in Moneyrea.

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**Ravara**—The Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held on Sunday, October 31st, at 3-30 p.m. and on the following Monday evening, November 1st, at 8 o'clock. The Meeting House was beautifully decorated by the ladies of the Congregation for the occasion. On Sunday afternoon the pulpit was occupied by the Rev. J. Shaw Brown, who delivered an excellent sermon based on Millais's famous pictures depicting labour in the fields. The soloist, Mr. McBride, sang "Rock of Ages" in a most impressive way. The singing of the well known harvest hymns was very good The service on Monday evening was conducted by the Rev. J. D. Davies.

Both services were very well attended, every seat was occupied on Sunday afternoon. It was most gratifying to see so many friends from other churches present. Thanks are due to members of Moneyrea choir and Mrs. McCartney for their assistance.

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**Newry**—For the fourth time within a year this Church has been packed to overflowing. The most recent occasion was the Armistice Day Service held at the request of the British Legion (Newry Branch) immediately after the ceremonies at the Cenotaph in Trevor Hill. Formerly this Service has been held in the other Protestant Churches of the town, but this was an historic occasion, being the first time for an Armistice Day service to be held in the First Presbyterian (Unitarian) Church. In former years all the Protestant ministers had taken part in the service, including the minister of the Non-Subscribing Church, but 1937 was fated to be different.

Of the six ministers invited to take part in discussing the arrangements for this year's service, not one appeared. Only one replied to say "that the beliefs of our respective churches diverge so widely on one cardinal point of the Christian faith as to make it undesirable to take part in the service." A post-script gave the information that the other clergy shared the writer's feelings and decision. In spite of this unfortunate state of affairs the British Legion decided to adhere to their original proposal to hold the ex-servicemen's parade to our Church on Armistice Day, contrary even, it was rumoured, to a suggestion put forward by the abstaining clergy that the Service be held elsewhere, the result was that the Armistice Service was a great success.

The Earl and Countess of Kilmorey, Major McCallum, D.S.O., R.M., Captain Vesey, (Rostrevor), Captain Darling (Warrenpoint), Messrs J. S. Fisher, D. Ferris, J.P., Mrs. Hunter Moore, Mrs. Moorehead and other leading representatives of every Church in Newry and district were present. The standards of the British Legion were received by the minister, wreaths were placed on the War Memorial, by the Earl of Kilmorey on behalf of the Legion, and by Mr. J. C. Thompson (Secretary) on behalf of the Church, the Last Post and Revèillè were sounded by the Bugler, and then with excellency commented on by all present, Miss Geraldine Costigan (Belfast) sang the solo "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere." The sermon subsequently preached by Rev. John McCleery drew comments of appreciation from all sides and later on being published brought several letters of congratulation from correspondents scattered over a wide area. Last but not least the collection for the Earl Haig Fund struck a new high-record for an Armistice Day Service in the town.

The invitable controversy ensued in the local press, and strange as it may seem it has run entirely in favour of the Newry Non-

Subscribers and their Minister. There has been some enquiries about membership in the Church by outsiders and more important perhaps, some of our own members who were wont to be a little indifferent about their Church, have now become more "ardens sed virens."

The Congregation as a whole is in a flourishing condition. All the winter activities are in full swing. The membership keeps on increasing and 1938 should see it beyond the 100 mark. News of interest to readers are, that already over £120 has been spent on the fabric of the church during the year, that our student for the Ministry, Mr. William Wharton has taken first place in Trinity College, Dublin, in a recent Honours examination, which means a Prize this year for certain and probably an Exhibition next September.

## ST. LYNDAMIRA.

St. Lyndamira of Cloyne, when only twenty years old, saved a little boy from a runaway horse, but was herself trampled to death by its ironshod hoofs. Her short life had been full of service to the young and aged, to birds and beasts. "Always when she swept the hearth the last thing at night she left a bowl of clean water and a lit rushlight, and opening the door called "O souls of the lost, I, Lyndamira offer you shelter for the night. I close the door, but you can pass through it. In the hours of darkness here are shelter, light, and pure water for your Welcome, you who are refused by all."

She wrote: "Heaven is not for the *unrighteous* or the *self righteous*. It is for all God's weak children who need *His* strength and love."

She was called "The Angel of the Inferno," the legend being that having entered heaven, her heart was so filled with compassion for lost souls wandering in darkness, each the maker of its own hell; "each in his own prison of remembrance," that she pleaded with God. "Father may I go down there and teach them to forget, because You do forget; and the answer was: "Go, my own dear child, and my blessing go with you." St. Lyndamira knocked at the gates of brass, and the apostle Judas, looked out through a grating. 'Not here, not here' he said, 'You are a child of God, this is no place for you.' But she passed in, and 'where despair is mute or where it cries aloud in its agony a young girl's voice says 'He made you for Himself. He loves you still. Forget, He forgets.'

"Every year she brings some who heeds her out of the mirk back to the light of day to a green isle in the western ocean. They say in Eire, God puts His two hands out of the sky to bless that island, and those who pass invisible along its lone green valleys are forgetting their pasts. When they make one step towards Him, He will make seven towards them."

The above extracts are from a story based on an Irish legend, by the Rev. F. H. Aldhouse, who has written the following:—

THE ANGEL OF THE INFERNO.

She is a prisoner by her own free choice
In grievous shadows of that land of woe,
Where all the outcast of the ages go.
A leafless place where no bird lifts its voice.

That is her home; unnoticed will she pass,
A young girl walking in the drifting haze,
In hectic glare where are no nights or days,
On rugged rock were grows no blade of grass.

O Lyndamira, Hope is your true name.
No depth of blackness but you will explore,
Pointing to Heaven's ever open door,
Whispering that God's love always is the same.

[Evidently the Gospel of the Larger Hope had a place in Ireland as far back as prior to A.D. 1145.—ED.]

God is a shepherd; He will seek His sheep
Through barren desert and o'er mountain steep.
God is an alchemist, Who takes dull lead
Transmuting it to purest gold instead.
God is a father; though the children roam,
The door stands ever open to their home.

Let those who know these things consider well—
Men have conceived and built, each one, his hell.

From the Celtic. By St. Lyndamira, (died A.D. 1141). Translation F.H.A.

PULPIT SUPPLY—The Rev. W. Eakin, 103 Greenore Street, Belfast.

DOMESTIC MISSION—Mr. Rowland has been appointed Missioner in succession to the Rev. W. Eakin.

## CAN POVERTY BE ENDED?

Poverty and War are two menaces against civilization. There is abundance for all in the world, since tons of coffee and wheat have to be burnt, and a river of milk flows into the Hudson, N.Y. Human ingenuity has done marvels in engineering, and every day reveals some new discovery, but before its own problems the world stands apparently helpless. A pamphlet has come to hand urging that specialists be set to work at once to produce the results we want: (1) That every consumer without distinction may have individual economic freedom, and that the monetary and other claims to production now destroyed or restricted be distributed to every Briton; (2) These distributions must not deprive owners of their property nor decrease its relative value, nor increase taxation or prices." Well! where are the Experts, let them get to work!

## LEPROSY.

The Bible tells us what a terrible disease leprosy is. In the North of Ireland at one time it must have been fairly prevalent, and in Carrickfergus Parish Church, there is a leper's window, where the leper stood outside and listened to the service. *The Daily Express* reports that at a meeting of Homes for British Lepers, the chairman, Dr. J. M. W. Macleod said that "Lepers in Britain can travel in public conveyances, sit in places of entertainment, may even live in close association with young children. Britain has 60 or more lepers and special homes for only 12

"A vague theism, a reverence for Christ as one of the greatest of the sons of men, though his dreams, alas, were impracticable—such is, and probably will for some time remain, the average Englishman's religious outlook," said Dr. Barnes, Bishop of Birmingham. "Such an attitude has doubtless always been present among us, but during the past few generations the number of those accepting it has grown enormously. A disquieting consequence of the present British attitude to religion was that in secondary and elementary schools the number of teachers of either sex ready and willing to give religious instruction was diminishing."—'Public Opinion.'

## ISLAM.

The West owes a great deal to Islam. True, in late days the spirit of the religion was swamped by narrowness and fanaticism; but chivalry began with it, for instead of following the custom by going over battlefields and ruthlessly slaying the wounded, they were spared and tended; it brought in a new architecture; the first university in Europe was founded at Cordova in Spain, when under the Moors; we use the Arabic numerals constantly; Algebra was introduced by Muhammadans; as also Chemistry, which through Alchemy takes its name from Khem, the old name for Egypt. The word "Unitarian" was first applied to Muhammadans, and it was in connection with a Moorish embassage in the reign of Charles II. the name was first introduced, to be used afterwards as naming that religion in his famous hymn, by John Wesley, who considered all religions outside Christianity to be inspired by demons. "Muhamoud" was applied as a nickname to the religion of Socinians in Hungary, who are now called "Unitarian."

## INWARD CHRIST AND HISTORICAL JESUS.

"The truths of the Scriptures will teach for ever, though the record perish and its authors be forgot. They came from God, through the Soul of Man. The inward Christ, which alone abideth for ever, has much to say which the Bible never told, much which the historical Jesus never knew. The Bible is made for Man, not Man for the Bible."—Theodore Parker.

**Free Christian and Unitarian Men's League**—A Concert organised by Mr. Albert Taylor will be given in Central Hall, Rosemary Street, Belfast, in aid of the funds of above League, on Tuesday, 21st December, at 8 o'clock. Friends are requested to give what help possible in purchasing tickets.

* * *

Thee we adore, O hidden Splendour, Thee,
Who in Thy Sacrament dost design to be;
We worship Thee beneath this earthly veil,
And here Thy presence we devoutly hail.
"Presbyterian Hymn Book."

* * *

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

(To the Editor of the "N.S. Presbyterian).

SIR,—The appointment of the Rev. R. Nicol Cross, M.A., to the Principalship of Manchester College, Oxford, will be taken as an honour by all our people and chiefly by his own congregation, which has already provided a Principal for the sister institution.

Unfortunately this will leave another vacant pulpit, and one the filling of which is of importance to us all. Could not the historic pulpit of the First Church be filled with a man who could establish a reputation as a fearless and outspoken preacher, a man with a wide knowledge of our churches, and above all a knowledge of the history and traditions of the Ulster people? Perhaps then we should see the First Church occupying a position similar to that of the City Temple, London, or of Hope Street, Liverpool, under the late Dr. Mellor; someone who would attract new life to the First Church, which is a matter of urgent importance.

There seems to be a prejudice against the appointment of Irish ministers to our leading pulpits. It is generations since an Irish minister has been called to any of our leading churches, yet ministers from Ireland have filled the highest places in England with success, while our own students seem to be well aware that their only hope to get a good church in Ireland is to start their ministry in England. We earnestly hope that the First Congregation will choose wisely and well.

KHUBLEI.

Lord God of Hosts, Father of all the brave, I stand before Thy altar here to-night alone, and to Thee I dedicate myself. My weapons I have laid before Thy shrine, for they are Thine, not mine, till I have made them so by knightly deeds well done and battles fought with mighty foemen. Grant me now my prayer. Let me encounter mighty men, heroic, fearless and strong. Give unto all my foes courage, and hope and pure nobility, so that when we meet in battle we may feel Thy glory round us and the joy of life and the joy of death, and the joy of great endeavour shall make holy all that battlefield.—Crusader.


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